A UNIVERSAL SIGNATURE OBJECT FOR DIGITAL DATA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems, methods and computer-readable media for generating and utilizing a universal signature object (100). A universal signature object (100) binds a digital signature (112) to digital data (200), regardless of the file format of the version of the digital data (200). A signing program (400) generates a universal signature object (100) or appends a digital signature (122) to a previously generated universal signature object (100). A universal-signature-object viewer (600) utilizes a universal signature object (100) to display information contained in the universal signature object (100) or generated from the universal signature object (100).